

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A washing machine comprising:

a washing tub having an inner tub rotatably mounted for holding and washing laundry,

and an outer tub having the inner tub mounted therein;

a driving device for rotating the inner tub;

a body having a base plate, one pair of side panels at opposite side edges of the base plate, a rear panel at rear edges of the base plate and the side panels, and a top panel on top of the side panels and rear panel, and the washing tub and the driving device held therein, and projections projected forward from an upper reinforcing plate mounted on the upper part of a front part thereof; and

a front panel rotatably engaged with a lower edge of the front part of the body, supported on, and detachably mounted on, a the front part of the body and including slots in a rear surface of a top end thereof in correspondence to the projections.

2. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front panel is engaged with the body such that the front panel is rotatable around one edge thereof.

3. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein the body or the front panel includes rotating means for holding the one edge of the front panel to prevent the one edge from breaking away, and making the front panel rotatable around the one edge in mounting of the front panel.

4. (Currently Amended) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front panel is engaged with a lower edge of the front part of the body such that the front panel is rotatable around the lower edge.

5. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein the body or the front panel includes rotating means for holding the lower edge of the front panel to prevent the lower edge from breaking away, and making the front panel rotatable around the lower edge in mounting of the front panel.

6. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 4, wherein the body includes at least one catching device for holding the lower edge of the front panel to prevent the lower edge from breaking away, and supporting the front panel rotatable around the lower edge in mounting of the front panel.

7. (Currently Amended) The washing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein the at least one catching devices are arranged symmetry symmetrically with respect to a center of the lower edge of the body.

8. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the catching means includes a slot for preventing the lower edge of the front panel from breaking away toward front or below the body.

9. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the catching device includes a length of forward projection from the body, and an upward bend part at an end of the projection.

10. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein the body further includes a supporting part under each of the catching devices.

11. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 10, wherein the supporting part is projected forward from the body.

12. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 9, wherein the front panel further includes slots each having a width and a length for inserting in the upward bend part on each of the catching devices.

13. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 12, wherein the front panel further includes;

a horizontal bend part bent backward from the lower edge having the slots formed therein, and a vertical bend part extended upward vertically from an end of the horizontal bend part.

14. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 13, wherein the body further includes at least one projection extended forward from a lower part thereof for guiding and holding a upper edge of the vertical bend part when the front panel is mounted on the body.

15. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body further includes a lower reinforcing plate.

16. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the body further includes a lower reinforcing plate.

17. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the catching devices and the projections on the body are formed at, and projected forward from, the lower reinforcing plate.

18. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 17, wherein the catching devices and the projections on the body are formed by cutting the lower reinforcing plate.

19. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the one pair of the side panels includes a groove formed along a front edge thereof for receiving different wires and a circulating hose of washing water of the washing machine.

20. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 19, wherein the groove is formed along the front edge of the side panel so as to be opened in a rear direction.

21. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 20, wherein the groove is formed by bending a front edge of the side panel toward the opened part of the body, and therefrom toward the rear panel of the body, vertically.

22. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front panel includes fluidity prevention means for guiding the front panel to a required position in the front part of the body, and fastened to the body after the front panel is mounted on the body, when the front panel is rotatably engaged with the body, and mounted on the front part of the body by rotating the front panel.

23. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 22, wherein the fluidity prevention means is backward projections of parts of opposite vertical edges of the front panel.

24. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of the side panels includes a guide part projected backward from a part of the front edge in correspondence to the fluidity prevention means.

25. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front panel includes;

side flanges formed by bending opposite edges to have openings toward a central part,
and

a reinforcing bracket fixed to the side flanges.

26. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 25, wherein the reinforcing bracket includes at least one projection at each of opposite ends for fastening to the side flanges on the front panel.

27. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 26, wherein the side flange includes a cut away part for passing the first projection on the reinforcing bracket.

28. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 27, wherein the side flange further includes fastening holes in an upper part or a lower part for fastening the first projection on the reinforcing bracket thereto.

29. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein the reinforcing bracket is fastened with a screw or a second projection projected backward from the first projection to insert into respective fastening holes.

30. (Currently Amended) The washing machine as claimed in claim 28, wherein the side flange further includes a depth of recess around the fastening hole—423, and the bracket 430 is fastened with a flat head screw.

31. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 30, wherein the reinforcing bracket is fastened with a flat head screw which is not projected to rear of the side flange of the front panel.

32. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 25, wherein front panel further includes an elastic member between a rear surface thereof and the reinforcing bracket for prevention of vibration of the bracket.

33. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 32, wherein the elastic member is formed of sponge or rubber.

34. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the front panel includes;

upper, and lower flanges respectively having upper edge and lower edge bent to have openings in a central direction, and

reinforcing beads formed at least one of the upper and lower flanges.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) The washing machine as claimed in claim [[35]] 1, wherein the front panel further includes fastening means for fastening the projections.

37. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body further includes an upper reinforcing plate mounted on the upper part of the front part thereof.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) The washing machine as claimed in claim [[39]] 1, wherein the projection of the body is formed by cutting the upper reinforcing plate.

41. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 37, wherein the upper reinforcing plate has a channel section.